



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT RECOGNIZES PREFERRED BIRD OF TEXAS AT VALUE ADDED PRODUCER GRANT TRAINING

GEORGETOWN, TEXAS, January 31, 2006—USDA Rural Development Area Director, Rusty Krueger, today recognized Collier Perry, owner of Preferred Bird of Texas, which has received a \$30,500 Value Added Producer Grant. The planning grant will determine the value of producing natural grass-fed poultry. Value Added Producer Grants are available to agricultural commodity producers who refine their products in order to increase the value of these products to customers.

“USDA Rural Development promotes efforts to bring together agricultural producers and rural businesses to spur economic opportunities for rural communities” said Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director. “During Fiscal Year 2005 Texas USDA Rural Development awarded over \$1 million in Value-Added Producer Grants.”

Since 2001 the Bush Administration has committed over \$115 million to support value-added agricultural investments, including over 110 energy-related projects. Value-Added Producer Grants may be used for planning activities, such as feasibility studies or business plans, or to provide working capital for marketing value-added agricultural products and for farm-based renewable energy projects. Eligible applicants are independent producers, farmer and rancher cooperatives, agricultural producer groups, and majority-controlled producer-based business ventures.

USDA Rural Development strives to ensure that rural citizens can participate fully in the global economy by providing technical assistance, funding, and other programs that help rural Americans build strong economies to improve their quality of life. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, call the Georgetown Local Office at 512-863-6502, Extension 4, or visit us on the web at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.



Collier Perry, (left) representing Preferred Bird of Texas, accepts a ceremonial check for a USDA Rural Development Value Added Producer Grant from Rusty Krueger, (right) USDA Rural Development Area 6 Director.

Committed to the future of rural communities.

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”

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